

**SALEM RECREATION COMMISSION
SALEM, CONNECTICUT
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 19, 2015**

Present

Pam Henry
Dave Kennedy
Sue Spang/Chairperson
Diane Weston
Doug Morrow
Alex Mercier/Recording Secretary

Absent

Al Giansanti
Crispin Fresco-Hawes
Vacancy
Guests
Donald Bourdeau
Alan Maziarz

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Sue Spang called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

1. MINUTES:

M/S/C (Weston/Henry) to approve the September 21, 2015 minutes as presented.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT:

None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT/GUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE:

D. Bourdeau informed the commission that he would be working on the playground the following day. He was going to get the wood chips out and rent an excavator. He stated that he had gotten new wood chips already but that they will probably need more.

D. Bourdeau stated that once soccer is done we will have to shut down the concession stand and water.

P. Henry stated that the porta potty should be sufficient for now.

S. Spang asked if the school had keys to the bathrooms.

D. Bourdeau discussed the tree trimming near the majors field. He will have a tree expert access the trees close to playing areas.

S. Spang asked about underdrainage near the fields.

D. Bourdeau stated that they are installing a 15" perforated pipe that should help with drainage by sending water to the wetlands.

D. Bourdeau stated that the t-ball field needs to be just grass.

P. Henry stated that they need to just say that's how it's going to be.

M/S/C (Spang/Weston) to direct public works to plant grass on the infield of the t-ball field.

Vote: Approved unanimous

The commission discussed school usage and availability on weekends and weeknights. S. Spang asked if we had confirmed usage on Tuesdays Wednesdays and Thursdays and stated that the school is not sticking with the 3-5, 5-7, 7-9 on Tuesday nights standard scheduling procedure.

A. Maziarz stated that basketball starts on Nov. 7th in the gym and that East Lyme and Montville have both reached out to him about competing against each other but there is an issue because we have coed teams for older kids.

The commission discussed the baseball scoreboard.

D. Kennedy stated that the Salem Lions will finish the footings on the 24th.

S. Spang stated that the batting cages are caving in and need to be fixed.

The commission discussed lighting on the parking lot at Round Hill Road. D. Bourdeau suggested that we use LED. S. Spang asked how we get charged for electricity with LED lights. D. Bourdeau stated that you pay a rate or a get a meter. D. Kennedy suggested Photo Cell for safety and security. The commission agreed.

D. Bourdeau asked if the tennis nets should be taken down or if lessons are still going on. D. Weston stated that they are not done yet. S. Spang stated that the right net is broken but still functioning. D. Bourdeau suggested Hidden Tennis for the repairs to nets and asked if the courts needed repairs or resurfacing. S. Spang stated that resurfacing was suggested for 2017 after an inspection. She also stated that the bench should be nowhere near the courts and would like it moved – it already has a chain on it. D. Bourdeau stated that near the snack stand would be a good spot and that he can put it on a cement pad.

D. Weston asked if there was a rock stuck in the sensor for the lights at the tennis courts because they are staying on until 12:00 AM. D. Bourdeau stated that he would check and that they should be scheduled to go off at 10:00 PM.

D. Bourdeau addressed the problem with pets on public fields, courts, and parks and suggested an ordinance and fine be implemented. S. Spang stated that the commission would support an ordinance. D. Bourdeau stated that he would bring that option to the schools and see what they say.

M/S/C (Kennedy/Morrow) to show support for an ordinance that prohibits dogs or other domestic animals, whether leashed or unleashed, attended or unattended, on fields and courts.

Vote: Approved Unanimous

A. Maziarz introduced himself formally and asked what the commission needed from him.

S. Spang thanked him and stated that he should get background checks on all coaches.

A. Maziarz asked if they needed to take some sort of course.

P. Henry said no to but stated that clinics are offered to help them learn.

S. Spang stated that Montville and Bozrah might want to join up with us for basketball.

A. Maziarz stated that the basketball link on the town website needs to be updated for basketball, because it was last updated in 2014.

S. Spang asked about registrations. A. Maziarz stated that they are open now.

S. Spang asked A. Maziarz if he had accessed the basketball storage locker. A. Maziarz stated that he had not but he needs to and that he has a key and will buy new balls.

S. Spang stated that East Lyme gave us a new backboard and rims set then asked if they had reached out yet about playing against us. A. Maziarz stated that they had and said that if we could get separate girls and boys teams for 3rd grade and above they would play us. He then said that he was going to get balls for the kids instead of trophies.

4. ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS

Nothing.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. BOF Capital Report – The commission discussed how they have to now apply for and justify their capital requests. S. Spang asked if they have to justify requests already in the 10 year plan that they had previously applied for. D. Kennedy said he did not know but would find out. P. Henry stated that they should really push for the skate rink. S. Spang stated septic and concessions are on the ten year plan and need to be funded because the well has been funded. The commission agreed.

b. Playscape – Everyone agreed that it looks great. D. Kennedy reminded everyone that they need to get the warranty on the canopy. S. Spang stated that it is still not usable though because the drainage had to go in after the playscape was finished.

c. Scoreboard – The footings will be done by the Lions and Public Works will dig the holes.

- d. **Basketball with East Lyme** – No report.
- e. **Well at Volunteer Park** – No report.
- f. **Recreation Clerk Report** – A. Mercier reported that he is working on starting an after school theater class for elementary school aged children, setting up a Twitter and Facebook account for the Salem Recreation Department, and is working on setting up dates for summer camps.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Volunteer Park** – No report.
- b. **Baseball** – Has a couple more weeks of play left and they took away participation trophies.
- c. **Soccer** – No report.
- d. **Basketball**- S. Spang asked if the courts needed nets or anything else. D. Morrow stated he will look at the netting to see if it needs replacing
- e. **Tennis** – D. Morrow stated that he would check out the damage done to one of the poles/net. Also stated that Riley had is working on her presentation and will be submitting receipts for for refunds.
- f. **Multi-purpose Path** – S. Spang stated that she was getting ready to go to the wetlands and planning and zoning.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

D. Morrow stated that four Eagle Scouts are looking for projects. The commission has a grant for a new bridge. S. Spang stated that the new bridge will go up sometime next year.

8. FUTURE ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Community Ice Skating Rink** – D. Morrow saw a “bowl” in Glastonbury that he said looked like it could be flooded to become an ice rink. S. Spang stated that they could get support from hockey players if they made the rink so hockey could be played on it. They are looking into multiple options.

9. ADJOURNMENT

M/S/C (Kennedy/Henry) to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM. Vote: approved unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by
Alex Mercier
Recording Secretary